California Aquaculture Association Governmental Relations Office 1521 "I" Street, Sacramento, California 95814 916/204-6920

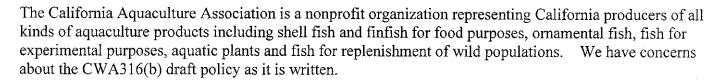
316 (b)
Once Through Cooling
Deadline: 9/15/06 5pm

September 15, 2006

Ms. Tam Doduc Chair, State Water Resources Control Board Environmental Protection Agency 1001 "I" Street Sacramento, California 95814

Re: CWA 316(b) policy

Dear Chairwoman Doduc:



You have received or will be receiving soon a submission from the Hubbs-Seaworld Institute requesting a "broader interpretation" of "Restoration Measures" relative to once-through cooling. Rather than restate all the details of their submission we wish to go on record as strongly supporting their comments and recommendations to the SWRCB.

The essence of their recommendation with regard to fisheries replenishment is that more "out-of-kind and off-site" restoration programs should be permitted under the policy. As they point out an "in-kind, on-site" approach is overly restrictive and should not be the "preferred" approach to restoration. Direct fisheries replenishment should be encouraged as a means of restoring depleted fish stocks and enhancing the coastal fisheries of the state.

The Hubbs-Seaworld Institute's seabass in enhancement program has been a great success and more such programs should be encouraged under the state's regulatory framework. Interagency communications should be conducted with the Department of Fish and Game with regard to this issue and consideration should be given to the goals of the Nearshore Fishery Management Plan referenced in the Hubbs-Seaworld comments. We recommend amending 316(b) as recommended above.

Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

Richard L. Matteis
Director of Governmental Relations

